MISSISQUOI VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

100 Robin Hood Drive, Suite 2
Swanton, VT 05488
Tel: (802) 868-4967 Fax: (802) 868-4265

MVSDSCHOOLS.ORG

Dear MVSD School Community:

On November 30th, we learned about 2 confirmed cases of COVID-19 at Swanton Elementary. As soon as we were notified, we worked with the Vermont Department of Health (VDH) contact tracing team. As soon as there is a positive case the Department of Health work with school nurses and administration to determine if there are any close contacts. **In this case, the VDH has determined that one individual was in school during their infectious period.** The students and staff in the classrooms involved have been contacted and are following Vermont Department of Health guidelines for quarantine. The Department of Health has emphasised that the current cases are the result of the spread of COVID -19 in our community and not a result of transmission within our school.

In an abundance of caution and due to the staffing impact, **Swanton Preschool** will be closed for in person instruction beginning tomorrow December 1st. The affected PK families will be contacted later this week by their teachers to share the plan for remote education. We expect that our Swanton PK classrooms will be back in session for in person learning on December 10th.

People who may have been exposed will be notified: Anyone who was in close contact with the person who tested positive may have been exposed to the virus and will be asked to quarantine, which means staying home and away from other people for up to 14 days. Read more about what it means to quarantine here.

If you are identified as someone who may have been exposed, someone from either Swanton Elementary School or the Health Department will notify you and will provide information and guidance on quarantine and other recommendations. If the Health Department calls, make sure to answer the phone or call them back.

We recommend that you take action to help limit the spread of COVID-19, even if your child is not experiencing symptoms. Please answer the phone if the Health Department contacts you. A contact tracer may be trying to reach you with important information. Should you be concerned about any possible exposure to COVID-19, please contact your healthcare provider. You can also learn more about getting tested in Vermont.

The most important things you can do:

- ➔ Make sure your child is wearing a mask.
- ➔ Make sure your child is washing their hands.
- ➔ Keep your child home if they are sick.
- ➔ Call your primary care provider if you or your child has specific symptoms of COVID-19 which include:

~Fever or chills
~Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
~Muscle or body aches
~Sore throat
~Cough
~Fatigue
~New loss of taste or smell
~Congestion or runny nose

Julie Regimbal, Superintendent

Tania Hayes *Dir. Special Education* | ***Kosha Patel*** *Curriculum Director* | ***Lora McAllister*** *Business Manager* | ***Robert Gervais*** *Technology Administrator* | ***Jeff Benay, Ed.D*** *Dir. Indian Education*

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~Nausea or vomiting ~Diarrhea

We are working with the Health Department to keep our community safe.

- We continue to follow the Health Department's guidance for Schools.
- We cleaned and disinfected the Swanton Elementary Schools per the Health Department guidance.
- Employees and sick children will not return to work until they are healthy.

Thank you for understanding that, due to medical privacy laws, we are not able to release the names of the individuals with COVID-19. We will continue to communicate changes and updates with you. With your participation, we believe we can create a safe and fun experience for your children.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at julie.regimbal@mvsdschools.org.

Many thanks,

Julie Regimbal

Julie Regimbal, Superintendent

Tania Hayes	*Kosha Patel*	*Lora McAllister*	*Robert Gervais*	*Jeff Benay, Ed.D*
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